

# CITY OF CANAL WINCHESTER

## COMMUNITY CONNECTION NEWSLETTER



### A Message from the Mayor...

**Happy 2022, Canal Winchester!** First, I want to congratulate and welcome our three new City Council members: Laurie Amick, Patrick Shea, and Ashley Ward. I would also like to congratulate Councilwoman Jill Amos on her re-election. City staff and I look forward to working with each of you for the future of Canal Winchester.

**Another year has come and gone**, and oh how quickly it passed. Seems like it was just last month I was telling you how busy 2021 was going to be, and here we are in 2022 already! When I was growing up in Canal Winchester, the 2020s seemed so futuristic, like another lifetime away. I thought for sure when it did get here, we would all be flying around in personal flying saucers like the Jetsons. Not yet! Now we're thinking about the 2020s and far beyond every day. I certainly hope this is the last year we need to hear the words COVID, mandates, vaccines, and masks. I think we're all so tired of it – fingers crossed!

Regardless of all of that, **2021 was another very prosperous year in Canal Winchester.** Several new businesses opened doors this year: two hotels, Hampton Inn and Fairfield Inn; Local Cantina, a Tex-Mex restaurant downtown; Bank of America near Walmart; and Smoothie King and WellNow Urgent Care near Aldi. In addition to the growing business scene, a new downtown apartment complex was built and new industrial buildings went up along Winchester Boulevard and at Bixby and Rager Road. A new Chipotle with a drive-thru pick-up lane is currently under construction in front of Meijer, and construction is expected to begin soon on a new car wash by Walmart.

**All of these businesses and more are helping to pave the way for the many things we love and enjoy in Canal Winchester.** Without the support of local businesses, we would not have the Labor Day Festival or Blues & Ribfest like we have today. There likely would be no National Barber Museum in town, and the Historical Society Complex would not have seen any restoration progress. Canal Winchester is not only a place where people want to live; it's also a vibrant business community with business owners that live in and support the community, too. Business owners see Canal Winchester as a forward thinking, prosperous, and vibrant community. A place that has preserved its downtown and restored older buildings with modern amenities, while still maintaining the similar look and feel as originals. A place where all people and businesses are welcome and given an equal opportunity to live and prosper, in a place we call home.

**Renovation is nearing completion on the Bob McDorman building** which will serve as the new home to the Canal Winchester municipal offices, council chambers, and community center. Opening is anticipated for late February, at which time we will have a ribbon cutting and an open house. Sign up for alerts through our website or follow us on social media to be notified when the event is scheduled!

**Oh yes, how can I forget McGill Park?** Phase I of the park is nearly complete with final touches to be finished-up next spring. The Walnut Creek Trail is partially open into the park, currently stopping at an area of construction near the future site of the McGill Park event center. The trail can be accessed across Washington Street from the covered bridge. The trail features two bridges that cross over a ravine and a small gorge, both of which carry water during hard or long rain events. Both bridges have a scenic view of Walnut Creek with the likes of being in Hocking Hills. If you haven't been on the trail yet, take some time to do so as I'm sure you will enjoy it.

On another note, our **Christmas in the Village celebration last month saw the most attendees ever**, with an estimated attendance of 5,000 visitors between the two nights. That is nearly double the number we see on a normal year! Santa brought his "A" game to town and saw all the good little girls and boys, right here in "The Greatest Little City In Ohio".



*Photos: (above) Mayor Ebert stands with members of council, staff, and project developers at the Walnut Creek Trail ribbon cutting on November 23.*



*(left) Santa is surrounded by visitors as he arrives for Christmas in the Village on December 4.*

Mayor Mike Ebert

## SNOW REMOVAL

When winter weather hits and we get substantial snowfall, our streets will be plowed and salted in the following order: arterial streets (*including Gender, Columbus, High, and Waterloo*), other collector streets and major streets within subdivisions, secondary streets within subdivisions, cul-de-sacs, alleys, and then parking lots. For information about our snow removal policy, visit our website.

### TIPS TO HELP SNOW REMOVAL RUN SMOOTHLY

- \* Do not shovel snow onto streets, alleys, or bike paths.
- \* Shovel snow into small piles instead of large piles.
- \* Do not pile snow beside fire hydrants or dumpsters.
- \* Avoid parking on streets during snowy or icy conditions.
- \* Remove all obstacles, including basketball hoops, from rights-of-way.
- \* Clear snow around mailboxes.
- \* Help neighbors who may be elderly, sick, or otherwise unable to shovel.



Help make sidewalks around your business or residence safer by shoveling a path around your property in a timely manner each time there is snow accumulation. Cleared sidewalks also help our local police, fire, and EMS during emergencies.

## Tax Preparation for Seniors

AARP Tax-Aide Volunteers will once again offer FREE income tax preparation services to seniors. This year the group will operate out of the Interurban Station Building (16 S. High Street), near the parking lots behind Stradley Park. Safety precautions have been put in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Appointments are required and will be available on Wednesdays and Fridays beginning February 2.

*\*Appointment scheduling begins January 10.  
Call 614-375-2167 to schedule your appointment.  
Calls before January 10 will not be accepted.  
Appointment scheduling will also be available at the  
Community Center during regular business hours.*

## Important Dates

JAN 3	City Council Meeting	FEB 21	City Offices Closed—Presidents’ Day
JAN 17	City Offices Closed—MLK Jr. Day	FEB 22	City Council Meeting
JAN 18	City Council Meeting	MAR 7	City Council Meeting
JAN 31	Committee of the Whole	MAR 21	City Council Meeting
FEB 7	City Council Meeting		

*All events are tentative and subject to change. Visit the City website for more details and event listings.*

City of Canal Winchester  
36 S. High Street  
Canal Winchester, OH 43110



@CanalWinchesterOH  
 @CityofCW  
 canalwinchesterohio.gov

## Snow Emergency

Local sheriff’s office may declare snow emergencies and temporarily close roads when winter weather makes travel dangerous.

### Snow Emergency Classifications:

**LEVEL 1:** Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Roads may also be icy. Motorists are urged to drive very cautiously.

**LEVEL 2:** Roadways are hazardous with blowing and drifting snow. Roads may also be very icy. Only those who feel it is necessary to drive should be out on the roads. Contact your employer to see if you should report to work. Motorists should use extreme caution.

**LEVEL 3:** All roadways are closed to non-emergency personnel. No one should be driving during these conditions unless it is absolutely necessary to travel or a personal emergency exists. All employees should contact their employer to see if they should report to work. Those traveling on the roads may subject themselves to arrest.

## Sign Up for City Alerts



CW alert system is your go-to source for need-to-know information! Sign up to receive text or email alerts related to public safety, traffic, cancellations, closures, and more!

**NEW:** Sign up to receive a reminder 1 week before utility payments are due!

[www.canalwinchesterohio.gov](http://www.canalwinchesterohio.gov)

## Did You Know...

The Fairfield County Sheriff’s Office has a Vacation Check program? This free program gives Canal Winchester residents peace of mind that their property is being watched while they are out of town for up to 30 days. A deputy will check on your home at least once a day while you are away.  
To sign up, call 740-652-7911 or visit [sheriff.fairfield.oh.us](http://sheriff.fairfield.oh.us) to fill out the online form.

